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CLAIMS

- 1 A radio mobile telecommunications system comprising a base transceiver station (18) arranged to manage a plurality of mobile systems (12, 14, 16) within at least one telecommunications cell; the base station (18) having means to provide an acquisition indication channel by which preamble signals (80, 82, 84) sent by a mobile system (12) to the base station (18) are acknowledged when the strength of a preamble signal (84) reaches a predetermined level, characterised in that the acquisition indication channel is further arranged to send a negative acquisition signal (171) when a message (168) sent by the mobile system (12) is unacceptable.
- 2 A system according to Claim 1 in which a negative acquisition signal (171) is sent when the message (168) sent by the mobile system (12) fails a cyclic redundancy code check performed in the base transceiver station (18).
3. A method of operating a radio mobile telecommunications system comprises :-
sending spaced preambles (160, 162, 164) of increasing strength from a mobile (12) to a base transceiver station (18);
sending a preamble acknowledgement signal (166) on an acquisition indication channel from the base transceiver station (18) to the mobile system (12) when a preamble (164) reaches an acceptable strength;
and sending a message signal (168, 178) from the mobile system (12) to the base transceiver station (18); characterised by :-
further sending a negative acknowledgement signal (171) on said acquisition indication channel from the base transceiver station (18) to the mobile system (12) indicating a corrupt message (168).